

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 – 60 (Cancelled)

61. (Currently Amended) A method of forming at least one crack in a concrete article comprising a concrete path, slab or pavement, said concrete article having an upper surface and at least one crack promoting insert cast within the concrete article beneath said upper surface, said method comprising the steps of: [[-]]

positioning a tool having a force applying member on or above ~~the~~ said upper surface of the concrete article whereby said member is located adjacent to or above said insert, and

causing said tool to apply through said force applying member a force to said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along and extending from a said insert.

62. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 61 wherein said force applying member comprises an elongated member.

63. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 62 wherein the length of the member is less than the length of said insert, and wherein said method includes the step of progressively moving the member to different locations longitudinally of the insert and applying a force to the concrete article at each location.

64. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 61 wherein said concrete article has a plurality of crack promoting inserts arranged in a grid and wherein said method includes the step of causing the force applying member to apply a force or forces to the concrete article to promote the formation of a plurality of cracks in the concrete article along the inserts in the grid.

65. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 61 wherein said concrete article has at least one crack promoting groove formed in ~~the~~ said upper surface ~~thereof~~, said at least one crack promoting insert being substantially aligned with said at least one groove, and wherein said step of positioning said tool above the surface of the concrete article comprises the step of positioning said member adjacent to or above a groove, and wherein said step of applying a force

to said concrete article promotes the formation of a crack in said concrete article along a said insert and between said insert and an aligned groove.

66. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 61 wherein said concrete article comprises a concrete path, pavement or slab with or without reinforcing.

67. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed claim 61 wherein said tool comprises an impact applying tool and wherein said force applying member comprises an impact applying member and wherein said step of applying a force to the concrete article comprises the step of applying an impact force through said impact applying member to the upper surface of said concrete article.

68. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 67 wherein said step of applying an impact force comprises the step of resting the impact member against the upper surface of said concrete article and applying an impact force to the impact member.

69. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 67 wherein said step of applying an impact force to the concrete article comprises the step of striking the impact member directly against the article.

70. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 68 wherein said step of applying an impact force comprises means to elevate a weight and means for dropping the weight against said impact member.

71. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 69 wherein said step of applying an impact force comprises means to elevate and drop the impact member against the concrete article.

72. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 61 wherein said tool comprises a vibrator for applying a vibratory force to said concrete article.

73. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 61 wherein said at least one insert has a "T" shaped configuration and is positioned in an inverted orientation in said concrete article.

74. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 64 wherein said inserts are arranged at right angles to each other to intersect each other and wherein said inserts interlock with each other at their points of intersection.

75. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 64 wherein said inserts are arranged at right angles to each other and including connectors for interconnecting said inserts.

76. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for forming at least one crack in a concrete article ~~provided with~~ , said concrete article comprising a path, slab or pavement, said concrete article having an upper surface and at least one crack promoting insert cast therein within said concrete article beneath said upper surface, said apparatus including a chassis, said chassis supporting a tool having a force applying member, and means for causing said tool to apply through said member in use a force to said upper surface of said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along and extending from a said crack promoting insert.

77. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 76 wherein said chassis comprises a mobile chassis whereby said apparatus may be moved to different positions on the concrete article, said chassis supporting at least one pair of steerable wheels.

78. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 77 wherein said chassis supports two pairs of steerable wheels, said wheels being steerable whereby said chassis may be moved laterally for repositioning said tool.

79. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 76 wherein said tool comprises an elongated contact beam comprising the force applying member and means for applying a force to the contact beam.

80. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 79 and including means for supporting said contact beam for movement between a first position where it is elevated in use above the upper surface of the concrete article and a second position where it is in contact with the upper surface of the concrete article.

81. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 79 wherein said contact beam extends longitudinally or transversely of the chassis.

82. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 80 wherein said chassis supports guides for guiding the contact beam between its first and second positions.

83. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 82 wherein said guides comprises guides at opposite ends of said contact beam and elevating and lowering means associated with each guide for elevating and lowering said contact beam.

84. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 79 wherein said tool comprises an impact tool and wherein said means for applying a force to said contact beam comprises a weighted member comprising an impact beam above said contact beam for applying an impact to said contact beam.

85. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 84 and including means for elevating said impact beam above said contact beam and means for releasing said impact beam to permit said impact beam to drop under the influence of gravity towards said contact beam.

86. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 85 wherein said impact beam comprises an elongated beam extending substantially parallel to said contact beam and means at opposite ends of said elongated beam for guiding said elongated beam towards and away from said contact beam.

87. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 85 wherein said means for elevating said impact beam comprises a vertically extendable member and wherein said means

for releasing said impact beam comprise releasable latching means for releasably latching said impact beam to said vertically extendable member.

88. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 76 wherein said tool comprises a vibrator for applying a vibratory force to said concrete article through said force applying member.

89. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 79 wherein said contact beam includes a planar contact member for contact with the upper surface of the concrete article, said planar contact member being provided with a strip of cushioning material.

90. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in claim 79 wherein said contact member comprises a blade-like member.

91. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 76 and including a laser guidance system for guiding movement of said apparatus over said concrete article, said laser guidance system including ~~means~~ a laser beam transmitter for establishing a laser plane offset from and parallel to a row of inserts and laser receivers on the apparatus aligned with a longitudinal axis of said apparatus and adapted to be aligned with said laser plane.

92. (New) A method of forming at least one crack in a concrete article having at least one crack promoting insert cast within the concrete article, said method comprising the steps of: [[-]]

providing an impact applying tool having an impact applying member and a weight,

resting said impact member on the surface of the concrete article such that said impact member is located adjacent to or above said insert,

elevating said weight, and

dropping said elevated weight against said impact applying member to cause an impact force to be applied to said impact applying member and thereby to said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along a said insert.

93. (New) A method of forming at least one crack in a concrete article having at least one crack promoting insert cast within the concrete article, said method comprising the steps of: -

positioning an impact applying tool having an impact applying member above the surface of the concrete article whereby said member is located adjacent to or above said insert, and

elevating said impact applying member and dropping said impact applying member to cause said impact applying member to directly strike and apply an impact force to said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along a said insert.

94. (New) Apparatus for forming at least one crack in a concrete article provided with at least one crack promoting insert cast therein, said apparatus including a chassis, said chassis supporting a tool having a force applying member comprising an elongated contact beam, means for supporting said contact beam for movement between a first position where it is elevated in use above the surface of the concrete article and a second position where it is in contact with the surface of the concrete article, and means for applying a force to said elongated contact beam such that wherein said contact beam is in said second position, a force is applied to said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along a said crack promoting insert.

95. (New) Apparatus as claimed in claim 94 wherein said chassis supports guides for guiding the contact beam between its first and second positions.

96. (New) Apparatus as claimed in claim 95 wherein said guides comprises guides at opposite ends of said contact beam and elevating and lowering means associated with each guide for elevating and lowering said contact beam.

97. (New) Apparatus for forming at least one crack in a concrete article provided with at least one crack promoting insert cast therein, said apparatus including a chassis, said chassis supporting a tool having a force applying member, said force applying member comprising an elongated contact beam extending longitudinally or transversely of said chassis, and means for

applying a force to said contact beam to thereby cause said contact beam to apply a force to said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along a said crack promoting insert.

98. (New) Apparatus for forming at least one crack in a concrete article provided with at least one crack promoting insert cast therein, said apparatus including a chassis, said chassis supporting an impact tool having a force applying member comprising an elongated contact beam and a weighted member comprising an impact beam extending substantially parallel to said contact beam and positioned above said contact beam for applying an impact to said contact beam, means at opposite ends of said elongated beam for guiding said elongated beam towards and away from said contact beam, means for elevating said impact beam above said contact beam and means for releasing said impact beam to permit said impact beam to drop under the influence of gravity towards said contact beam to apply a force to said contact beam and thereby a force to said concrete article when said contact beam is in contact with said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along a said crack promoting insert.

99. (New) Apparatus for forming at least one crack in a concrete article provided with at least one crack promoting insert cast therein, said apparatus including a chassis, said chassis supporting an impact tool having a force applying member comprising an elongated contact beam and a weighted member comprising an impact beam positioned above said contact beam for applying an impact to said contact beam, a vertically extendable member for elevating said impact beam above said contact beam, releasable latching means for releasably latching said impact beam to said vertically extendable member, said latching means being releasable to release said impact beam and permit said impact beam to drop under the influence of gravity towards said contact beam to applying a force to said contact beam and thereby enable a force to be applied to said concrete article to promote the formation of a crack in said concrete article along a said crack promoting insert.